

# NEWS RELEASE

*OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS*

*EDWARD E. McNALLY  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY*

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*Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700*

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*For Immediate Release*

**NOVEMBER 22, 2005**

Edward E. McNally, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on November 9, 2005, **OSCAR L. DALE**, age 47, and **JASON B. DALE**, age 24, both of Mt. Vernon, Illinois, were named in a two count Indictment returned by a Federal Grand Jury sitting in Benton, Illinois.

Both Defendants were charged with conspiracy to manufacture and distribute five hundred (500) grams or more of a mixture and substance containing methamphetamine. In addition, **OSCAR L. DALE** was charged with a single count of possession with the intent to distribute methamphetamine.

The conspiracy count carries a potential penalty of 10 years to life imprisonment, a fine of up to \$4,000,000, and a term of supervised release of at least 5 years.

The possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine count carries a penalty of up to 20 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$1,000,000, and a term of supervised release of at least 3 years.

An indictment is a formal charge against a defendant. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, the Illinois State Police, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, and other state and local law enforcement authorities.

In addition, the Jefferson County States Attorney's Office and the Hamilton County States Attorney's Office have assisted throughout the investigation.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.